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**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE –
EXAMINING GROUP 2881**

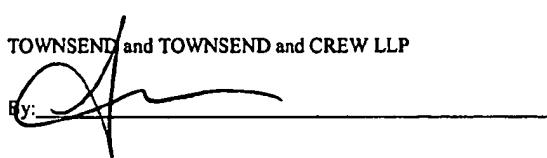
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PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 16869P-010300US

On June 4, 2004

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: 

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Masahiro Watanabe

Application No.: 09/603,459

Filed: June 22, 2000

For: CHARGED PARTICLE BEAM
APPARATUS AND AUTOMATIC
ASTIGMATISM ADJUSTMENT
METHOD

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 2881

Examiner: Vanore, David A.

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2881

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING
GROUP 2881**

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7/16/04*
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed February 28, 2004 on the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 1545 of this paper.

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